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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6603

BILL NUMBER: SB 151

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 19, 2006

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Lawson C

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill adopts a revised Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children. The bill provides that the current Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children is in effect until the Governor issues a proclamation that all 50 states and other participating entities have adopted the new compact.

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Summary:* This bill adopts a revised Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children. The revised Compact becomes effective and binding upon legislative enactment of the compact into law by 35 states. However, the current Compact remains in effect until the Governor issues a proclamation that all 50 states and other participating entities have adopted the new compact.

Provisions with Fiscal Impact: The new Compact requires the court of a receiving state to confer with the court of the sending state to determine the most appropriate forum for adjudication when an issue of child protection or custody is brought before the court. As proposed, the courts could experience a minimal increase in workload.

The new Compact allows an interested party to seek an administrative review of a receiving state's determination if a proposed placement is not approved. As proposed, the Department of Child Services (DCS) would experience an increase in administrative duties. The number of placements which are not approved is not known. However, the DCS should be able to do so within its existing level of resources.

The new Compact creates the Interstate Commission for the Placement of Children. The DCS reports that it currently serves on a board which is connected to the current Compact. Thus, no increase in workload is

anticipated. The bill allows the Commission to levy and collect an annual assessment from each member state to cover the cost of the operations and activities of the Commission and its staff. The DCS reports that it currently pays an annual assessment related to the current Compact. Should the dollars levied and collected change, the state would experience a change in expenditures.

Under the current Compact, children placed in out-of-state residential placements are included. Those children are not included in the new Compact. The DCS reports that when a child is placed in a residential placement in Indiana by another state, or by Indiana in another state, a review of paperwork is conducted. Thus, under the new Compact, the DCS could experience a decrease in administrative duties.

Background Information: The DCS reports that for the calendar year as of December 1, 2006, a total of 824 children were placed in Indiana and 601 were placed outside of the state.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Child Services.

Local Agencies Affected: Courts.

Information Sources: John Ryan, Department of Child Services; John Wood, Department of Child Services; Nancy Ingle, Department of Child Services.

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